

REMARKS

Claims 1-13 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, claim 1 is amended. Reconsideration of the application is respectfully requested.

Entry of the amendments is proper under 37 C.F.R. §1.116 since the amendments: (a) place the application in condition for allowance for the reasons discussed herein; (b) do not raise any new issue requiring further search and/or consideration since the amendments amplify issues previously discussed throughout prosecution; and (c) place the application in better form for appeal, should an appeal be necessary. The amendments are necessary and were not earlier presented because they are made in response to arguments raised in the final rejection. Entry of the amendments is thus respectfully requested.

The courtesies extended to Applicants' representative by Examiner Joyce during the interview held June 14, 2004, are appreciated. The reasons presented in the interview as warranting in favorable action are incorporated into the remarks below and constitute Applicants record of the interview.

The Office Action rejects claims 1-5, 7-11 and 13 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) over Soldan (U.S. Patent No. 2,267,143); and claims 6 and 12 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Soldan. Applicant respectfully traverses these rejections.

The Examiner agreed during the personal interview that Soldan does not disclose or suggest a vibrating aggregate for vibrating a piece attached thereto, the aggregate including at least a shaft including a rigid central portion and, at each end of the rigid central portion a shaft section mounted by a bearing structure consisting essentially of one bearing for each shaft section in a piece to be vibrated, an inner race of the bearing rotating with the respective shaft section, as recited in independent claim 1.

Soldan discloses a vibrating device that can be used in various shaking and separating operations in high speed vibratory screens and in vibrating machines where rotary action is

converted into a vibratory or shaking motion (Col. 1, lines 4-11). However, as shown in Fig. 2, Soldan does not teach an inner race of a bearing that rotates with the shaft. Accordingly, Soldan does not disclose each and every feature of independent claim 1.

Furthermore, because Soldan does not disclose or render obvious the features of each and every feature as the claimed invention, independent claim 1, and its dependent claims, define patentable subject matter. As such, Applicant respectfully requests that the rejections under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) and 35 U.S.C. §103(a) be withdrawn.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable consideration and prompt allowance of claims 1-13 are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact Applicant's undersigned representative at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,



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